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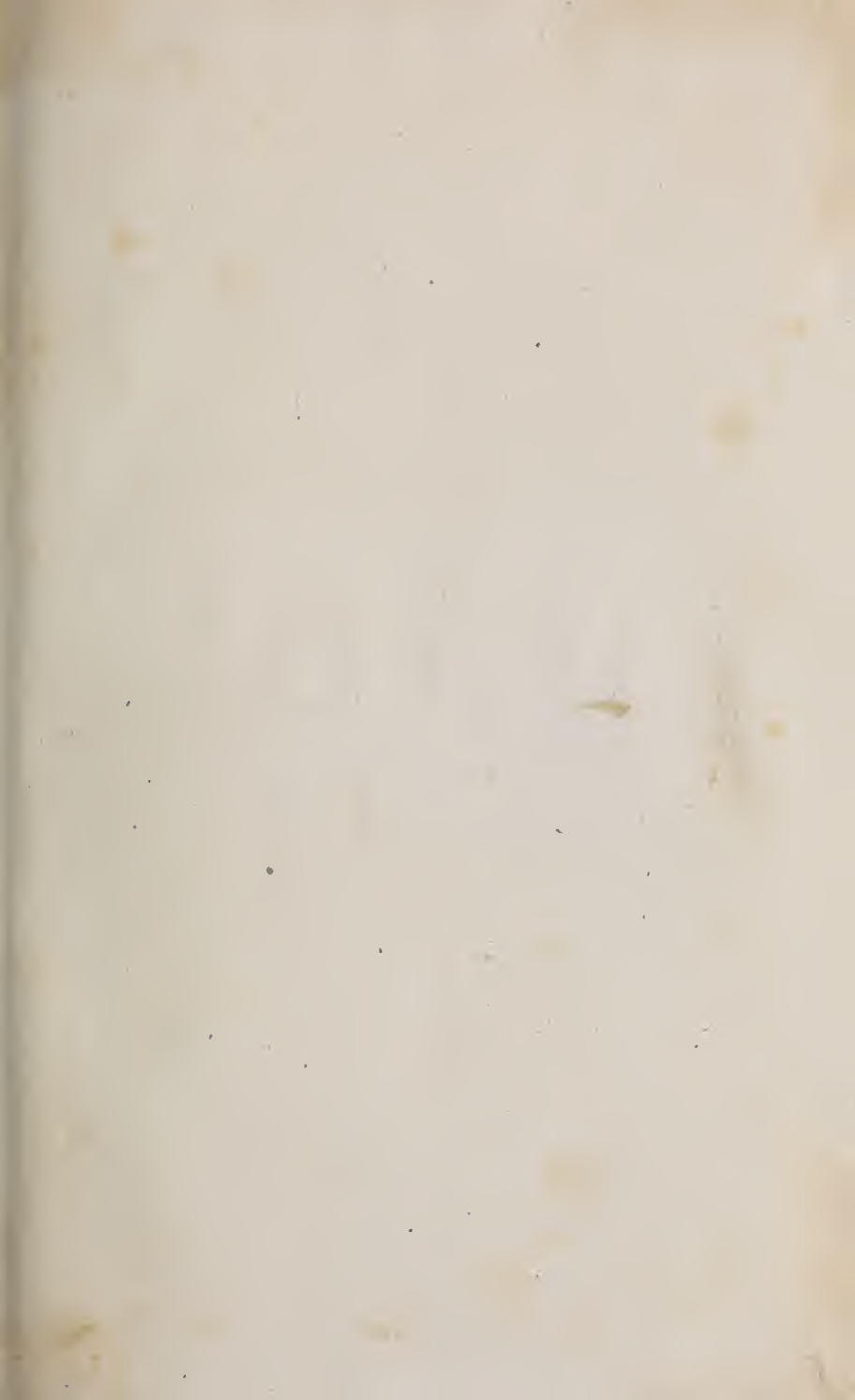
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Vol. XXXV.]

WASHINGTON, MAY, 1859.

[No. 5.]

Fourth Annual Message of President Stephen A. Benson,

DELIVERED TO THE LEGISLATURE, DECEMBER, 1858.

OUR readers will learn from this last Annual Message of President BENSON to the Legislature of Liberia, much of the condition of that young Republic, of the views, the purposes, the prospects, and the character of its government. This government evidently possesses all the elements of stability, growth, of future probable influence and beneficence beyond any present assignable limits. It stands free from the reproaches that have been cast upon it and is pledged by its constitution to benevolent endeavors for the civilization and education of the large aboriginal population under its laws. We may expect a rapid extension of its territorial bounds and commercial relations. Further explorations of the interior, and of the countries on the Niger, and the establishment of friendly and more intimate commercial relations with the inland and coast tribes, demand attention, and must result in mutual

advantages to the Liberians and to the African tribes and nations.

The free people of color in our Northern and Western States are reflecting deeply upon the Divine providence towards Africa, and their obligations to seek her good, that she may become an attractive home to them and their children, and her population share in Christian light and hope. A selected number of intelligent young men of color are about to visit Liberia and probably other parts of the coast, that on their return they may report their observations.

In movements for the colonization and civilization of Africa, from the United States, we trust the Government of Liberia will not only feel an interest, but share, by the counsels of its experience and the aid of a wise and comprehensive policy.

We have long thought the United States Government might, through its African squadron, in perfect har-

mony with the humane objects for which it is maintained, assist, (as to some extent it has done already,) incidentally but very essentially, the great purposes for which Liberia was founded, and that many gallant officers of our Navy would be happy to co-operate in carrying out successfully any plans of exploration which may be undertaken by the friends of Liberia or by Liberians themselves; such explorations tending manifestly to the progress and triumphs of commerce, humanity and our Divine Religion in that part of the world.

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*Fellow citizens of the Senate and
House of Representatives:*

It is a cause for unfeigned gratitude to the Father of all our mercies that in meeting you this day for the purpose of making my annual communication of the state of our public affairs, as well as of recommending public measures, I am able to say that though we have not been exempt during the last year from such perplexing incidents as are common to nations, yet we have manifestly shared largely in the blessings dispensed by His bountiful hand.

GENERAL PROSPERITY.

The seasons have been very regular; the crops—excepting those blighted by the salt winds within the vicinity of the sea coast in the County of Maryland—have been unusually large and diversified; the camwood and palm-oil trade has exceeded the expectations entertained the preceding year; our foreign relations, with one exception, are both tranquil and satisfactory; we have

been blessed to a great extent with peace within our borders, and though in common with other nations of the earth, we have felt the monetary depression; yet to the reflective, to those of enlightened, patriotic, and liberal minds, this very depression, though a great inconvenience, will ever be regarded as a blessing in disguise. It has had the effect, to a very encouraging degree, of causing our citizens to search out and look to those springs of independent subsistence which lie within our own naturally Heaven-favored country.

RELATIONS WITH NATIVE TRIBES.

There were several matters introduced at your last session which received your concurrence, and for the carrying out of which appropriation was duly made; but for reasons partly beyond my control, as well as those of a prudential nature, I have not succeeded in carrying them out. Among these I will mention my desired and intended visit to Garroway, for adjustment, either by pacific or coercive means, of the long standing difficulties between the Niffiaus and Podeis, who, though not actively engaged in war, nevertheless obstruct intercourse, and stagnate the trade to a considerable degree. The departure of the *Lark* for England for repairs, leaving us without a suitable *Coastguarda*, and facilities for travelling, the difficulties growing out of the recapture of the *Regina Cœli* in our waters, and the tedious correspondence and business connected with which, making my presence in this city very necessary nearly the whole year, have been the means of most painfully frustrating my cherished purpose of visiting the various settlements of our leeward counties, and several points along the coast during the year, and of my carrying out several objects that were so very accordant

with both legislative and executive policy. I am happy to say, however, that notwithstanding this—excepting the abominable and deleterious effect produced by the so-called emigration system—which invariably engenders within our jurisdiction wars, kidnapping, and consequently a breach of the laws of God and of all Christian nations—peace, and respect for our laws among the aborigines, have been remarkably preserved. And though the influences of our Christian and civilized example have not extended as rapidly and as effectually among them as we have desired, yet it is both gratifying and encouraging to us to know, by incontrovertible evidence, that the benign influences of our Christianity and civilization are hopefully progressing among them; that proselytes are being made annually from their ranks, while the greater part of those living within fifty miles of our settlements are manifestly assimilating themselves to our manners and customs; and their confidence in and respect for us and our institutions are correspondingly increasing; and if the Divine blessing shall continue to rest as heretofore upon the great Colonization enterprise, in the prosecution of its philanthropic work amidst oppositions and discouragements—if there be no abatement in the wonted zeal of the Missionary Societies operating in this country, and if Liberia will keep its duty and responsibilities prominently in view, there is not a shadow of doubt that the great, and I may say one of the leading objects contemplated in the organization of the great Colonization enterprise, viz: the civilization and christianizing of this vast moral waste, will in due time be consummated.

FARM LAND AT CAPE MOUNT.

In a special message at your last

session, I requested that you would by law define and proclaim the area of reservation to be made as the corporate bounds of the city of Robertsport; in order that, in laying off the contiguous surplus lands into a farming district, the wishes and the views of the Legislature might not be deranged with regard to that settlement. In the absence of any definite action by the Legislature on that subject—being urged thereto by the urgent necessity that the inhabitants of that settlement be placed in possession of their lands as speedily as possible, I instructed the Surveyor early this year to commence laying off farm lands (lots) immediately beyond a line which is parallel to, and three miles distant from, the street fronting the Receptacle, and lying between that building and the bay or harbor. Many of the inhabitants of Robertsport express a wish that the area reserved as its corporate bounds be diminished from three to one mile square, so as to increase at once the quantity of farm lands in that vicinity, and the facilities for reaching them. I shall be pleased to carry out any wish you may express on that subject.

In the month of March, 1857, I made a visit to Cape Mount, and ascended the bay about twenty miles—which, as you are no doubt aware, makes an indentation of twenty odd miles from the line of sea coast—and selected, on its northern bank, commencing about six miles from Robertsport, a fine tract of land to be laid off in a farming district; it runs along the north bank of said bay about ten miles, extending interiorward indefinitely. I spent nearly two days in travelling over and examining that fine tract of land, and found it in every respect well adapted to agricultural purposes; a great part of which over-

looks the largest and handsomest inland sheet of water as yet known in Liberia.

The native chiefs expressed a desire that it be occupied at once, and I feel a desire almost amounting to anxiety that it be occupied as a farming district as soon as prudence shall dictate such a course as proper; for you will no doubt agree with me, that, next to a sufficient numerical force for self-protection and the suppression of the wonted cupidity of the natives, it is of importance that the proper regard be had to the moral, industrial, and to some degree the intellectual qualities of the founders and inhabitants of all our interior settlements, especially among a people like the Vays, who are intellectually in advance of many of the immigrants to this country from the United States—without which regard this Government would be involved in almost interminable trouble and expense growing out of difficulties imprudently brought about with the aborigines. And though a suitable community for the formation of that farming settlement can be selected from Robertsport, yet to do so at present would be to imprudently weaken that settlement in every respect. These facts suggest, as the most prudent course for the present, that as many settlers as are disposed should take their farm lands on the Cape and contiguous plains; and those who are not disposed to draw elsewhere than in the contemplated farming settlement, can find a sufficiency of public land in the vicinity of Robertsport to cultivate for the present.

CAREYSBURG AND NEW ROAD.

I made a visit to the new interior settlement of Careysburg early in February of this year, which was commenced and for several months was so very ably and successfully

prosecuted under the supervision (as special agent) of the Rev. J. hu Seys, the tried and staunch friend of our country and race; and I am happy to be able to bear testimony, not only to the beauty, but also to the capability of that section of country to sustain by manly effort a teeming population. Nor was I less gratified with the evidence I there had before me of the perseverance of its enterprizing founder, as well as of Hon. J. H. Paxton, who succeeded him in the Agency, and holds the general superintendency under a commission from this Government.

Though the distance of that settlement from the sea-board, in a direct line forming a right angle with the coast line, will, when accurately ascertained, scarcely exceed sixteen miles, which is much less than is generally supposed—such mistakes, however, owing to the very serpentine course of the native foot-paths, and the large and not unfrequently dense growth of the forests, it is difficult for any one to escape—yet as the settlement has so far, to a satisfactory extent, secured the object contemplated in its formation, the emigrants sent out there having, up to the present with little exception, acclimated so very successfully—this fact, so long as it holds good, should be regarded as of paramount importance to mere distance. The settlement, however, lacks facilities for transportation; and until these are provided, the operations of the Society in that direction will of necessity be expensive; and the inhabitants will labor under great disadvantages. The Society has appropriated an amount to assist in the construction of a road down to White Plains; and the people in the several corporate capacities ought to contribute, either in labor or money, to supply the

deficiency for constructing a good road safely traversable by team. The present superintendent, following the commendable example of the founder of the settlement, has cultivated and maintained a friendly feeling and good understanding with the natives in that vicinity.

INTERIOR SETTLEMENT AT BASSA.

I received last June a copy of Resolutions of the Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society passed at their last annual meeting, providing for the immediate formation of the interior settlement long ago contemplated in Bassa County, which had been *defeated if not supplanted* by the formation of the settlement of Careysburg; and in the letters received at the same time from the Corresponding and Financial Secretaries, I was informed that advertisement had been made for names of a sufficient number to be given in to constitute a proper company before the sailing of the packet last spring, so that directions might be given for preparations to be made for their reception and accommodation on their arrival in the fall expedition; but it is said that up to the sailing of the Stevens last May no names had been received. It is an enterprize, however, in which, I learn by letters, the New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania Colonization Societies feel much interest, and I feel sure that their efforts will not be abated until their long cherished desire is honorably consummated. I wrote fully and encouragingly on the subject to the Corresponding Secretary by the last packet, but it yet remains to be seen, on the arrival of the next packet, what progress is being made.

INTERIOR SETTLERS WANTED IN EVERY COUNTY.

The fact is, we need, and should

have as soon as is practicable, at least one good interior settlement in each county of this Republic; and this Government should by all justifiable means encourage their establishment as speedy and permanently as possible. It is a blind policy to retain or encourage any more emigrants to remain on or near the sea-board than are necessary for the protection of the sea-board communities. They should by all means be encouraged to go back in approximation to the heart of this Republic and of this continent; their longing eyes and expectant hearts should be independently turned away—so far as subsistence is concerned—not only from our Atlantic coast, but from the country of their birth lying beyond the great Atlantic, unless turned thitherward in quest of a market for the superabundance of their products of agriculture and of art—or affectionately in remembrance of a dear relative remaining beyond the high seas, or in commiseration of the condition of millions of our race (bondsmen or the nominally free) dwelling there.

LIBERIA COLLEGE.

I regret to have to state that within the last nine months no progress has been made in the erection of the College buildings. Your perfect knowledge of the cause of the suspension of operations supersedes the necessity of my advertence to it in detail. Justice to the administration, however, seems to require that further explanations than those contained in my last annual message, be now given of the cause of executive action in making the appropriation of land, and for the recommendation made to the Legislature.

CHANGE OF SITE.

I then notified you of the safe

arrival, as early as in December, 1856, of the materials for the College buildings, and that upon re-examination by the trustees of the original site selected for their erection on the hundred acres granted in the vicinity of Clay-Ashland, they decided its inappropriateness, owing to a large swamp said to be contiguous to it; and that I had, by request of the trustees, solicited that another appropriation of land be made, on which a suitable site might be selected for its erection; and that the action of the Legislature upon the application not having been satisfactory to the trustees, they subsequently determined to erect it within the corporation of Monrovia; and that in order to expedite and facilitate its erection, so as to save the materials from decay, I had assumed the responsibility of making a grant of twenty acres within this corporation, with the hope that you would increase the area to one hundred acres.

WHY HE GAVE A PROMISE OF A NEW SITE.

I did not particularize on the subject in my last message, because I deemed it unnecessary; not anticipating the difficulties that have since arisen respecting the place of its erection. But some of the litigant discussions had, and explanations given on the subject during this year, having been such—though perhaps not intended—as tended to cause an erroneous view to be taken of executive action in the premises, and to render him chargeable with indiscretion and inconsistency, implied if not expressed, it becomes now necessary, in vindication of my official reputation—especially as this whole matter will, no doubt, form a part of the history of Liberia—that I should give a succinct explanatory statement of the ground of executive

action, as well as of the controversy involved.

The misunderstanding and litigation during the year, which resulted in sustaining an injunction against the erection of the College in the Corporation of Monrovia, have originated, so far as I have been able to understand, from the following causes: 1st, an ignorance on the part of some, until litigation had progressed considerably this year, of the existence of the law which is said to locate it at Clay-Ashland; while others though aware of the existence of a law, denied that it positively fixed its location at Clay-Ashland, as contended for by the plaintiffs. I am free to confess that I was ignorant of the existence of the law which has since been judicially determined as fixing its location at Clay-Ashland, until litigation had considerably progressed. Major Erskine, who compiled the laws in 1857, and for this purpose had free access to the archives of State, was more than once particularly instructed by me to make diligent research in the State Department for the act that was rumored had passed some years previously, incorporating the College. I judged from the reading of the caption of an act, to wit, "An additional Act respecting Liberia College," found in the compilation made in 1853, that unless repealed, there must have been a previous or original act incorporating or pertaining to the College, to which the additional act was but an adjunct. But Major Erskine reported to me more than once, while he was prosecuting his work of compilation, that after diligent research for days he could find no trace of it. I also made diligent inquiry in person, to ascertain if such an act was in existence, so that it might be inserted in the new compilation, in case it had either been omitted in the pre-

vious compilation, or had passed subsequently to it; failing in the object of my inquiry, as had been the case with the compiler in the object of his research in the State Department, I very reasonably concluded that if ever such an act had passed, it had been repealed or abrogated. Hence, upon a re-application to me by a committee from the trustees of the College, and subsequently by the President of the same, for a grant of land to be made within this corporation for that purpose, the latter gentleman having informed me, upon inquiry, that he knew of no law in Liberia that said grant would be in violation of, and that in the absence of express legislative action, the Executive had always made conditional grants of land to religious, educational, or other benevolent institutions—which I knew to be a fact, as well as perfectly consistent—I assumed the responsibility, as stated in my last annual message, of making a grant of twenty acres in this corporation, recommending its increase to one hundred acres; which, under the circumstances, I would feel fully justified in doing again.

DEFECTIVE COMPILATION OF THE LAW.

Under the aforesaid circumstances I promised to grant a deed for the twenty acres. But the House of Representatives having refused to confirm the grant, upon the ground, as they say, of its having been made ignorantly of a law still unrepealed, having passed six years ago, fixing its location at Clay-Ashland, which error resulted from the omission of the law in the compilation made in 1853, a year after its passage, and an injunction having been sued out by plaintiffs against the trustees, founded upon the declaration that there was a law somewhere existing

fixing its location in the vicinity of Clay-Ashland, which law is said to be found published in a number of the *Liberia Herald*, issued early in 1852, agreeing, as it is said, with an interlined bill found among some rubbish papers; these, together with a reference to the journals of the Legislature, and to a number of the *African Repository*, in which said act was also published, being regarded and decided by his Honor the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and Quarterly Sessions for this county, as sufficiently corroborative and conclusive to sustain the injunction, it were not reasonable to suppose that I would presume, under such circumstances, to so far wilfully come in collision with legislative and judiciary action in the premises, as to grant a deed, the promise of which was made under circumstances induced by omissions over which I had no control, and of which I had no knowledge.

RECOMMENDS A SPEEDY DECISION.

Justice, truth, and candor, alike demand that these explanatory statements be made in vindication of my public and private reputation, from an implied if not expressed imputation of indiscretion, inconsistency, and instability, which erroneous impressions could not otherwise than obtain in the absence of these full explanations. Having made these explanations, I have nothing more to add or recommend than to solicit such early and prompt action on the subject as will secure its immediate erection upon the most suitable site. Respect for, and gratitude to, the noble-hearted donors and friends of the enterprize dwelling in foreign lands, should inspire us with this feeling and determination. You are now equally, if not more, competent than I am, to judge of the most suitable site. I feel sanguine, therefore, if you are

satisfied that the original site at Clay-Ashland is unfit, and that the site in this corporation, on which its erection has been commenced, possesses superior advantages to any that have been offered up the river, you will not hesitate to legalize and continue its erection here, which would be a great saving of expense. I hope a spirit of conciliation will generally pervade, and that it will in a special manner influence your action on that subject, so that the cherished desire of our benevolent and magnanimous friends abroad, as well as that of every true patriot in Liberia, may be realized as speedily as the nature of the case will possibly admit.

DONATION TO THE COLLEGE LIBRARY FROM J. B. COLLINS, OF NEW YORK

On the arrival of the M. C. Stevens, last voyage, I received from the New York State Colonization Society, through the Rev. J. B. Pinney, their Corresponding Secretary, a lot of fine books for Liberia College, donated by Mr. Collins of New York, which I have safely delivered into the possession of the President of the College. I also continue to receive each year from Benjamin Coates, Esq., of Philadelphia, valuable contributions of books to our public libraries.

AGRICULTURE PROSPEROUS IN SOME COUNTIES.

I am happy to be able to inform the Legislature that the agricultural interests of the Republic, especially in the counties of Montserrado and Grand Bassa, were never more prosperous and encouraging; and the approximation of the country to what may be considered independence on a permanent basis was never greater in the annals of Liberia.

NATIONAL FAIR AND PREMIUMS

The National Fair of 1857 has greatly contributed this year to intelligent industrial efforts. And if it is continued annually as provided by law, and the proper influence is exerted in its favor, as all intelligent patriots will do, it will be the means of bringing about a complete revolution and reform in the industrial departments of the nation, which will increasingly bless the country with peace and prosperity.

From the Rev. D. A. Wilson, Principal of the Alexander High School, and Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, of Connecticut, United States of America, I received last year five dollars each, contributed in the way of prizes. And by the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, a resolution has been recently passed, and a copy communicated to me, nobly appropriating the sum of £25, or \$120 per annum, for four years, for the best and most satisfactory samples of cotton raised in Liberia each year; also four appropriate medals, to be awarded annually as second class prizes; all which in the name of the generous donors, I will take pleasure in awarding to the meritorious

H. B. M. Government in furtherance of the very laudable object of cotton cultivation in Liberia, kindly sent out gratuitously to this Government, near the close of last spring, ten barrels of superior cotton seed, which, unfortunately, arrived about six weeks too late for the proper planting season; the seed, however, is preserved, and will be used the ensuing season, when ascertainment will be made as to its superiority to the several qualities of our native cotton.

Our citizens have made an encouraging commencement at it this year, as also has there been an in-

crease in the cultivation of cane coffee, and other staples; and from indications, we are led to believe that the increase will be greater the ensuing year. Small exportations of those products of their farms commenced this year, which, if properly encouraged by our merchants, there is not a shadow of doubt of their increase annually.

A NEW CENSUS IN PROGRESS.

I have caused the Census of the Republic, exclusive of such aborigines as do not live in our settlements, with such statistics as are prescribed by law, to be taken this year; which I purpose having printed at an early day as possible.

DUTY TO ELEVATE THE NATIVE TRIBES.

By reference to my annual message to the Legislature at the session commencing December 1856, you will perceive therein that I specially invited the attention of the Legislature to the claims of our aboriginal inhabitants upon, and their constant applications to, this Government for adjudication of their numerous misunderstandings and for protection, and the great expense to which the Government is subjected annually, in complying with their numerous requests. I also expressed regret that, for lack of means, the humane provision for their improvement, contained in the 5th article of our Constitution, could not be effectually carried out. I recommended that a light direct tax be levied on them to assist in defraying the expenses incurred by virtue of their relations to us.

In fact the improvement of our aboriginal population their social, moral, religious, civil and intellectual elevation, are subjects to which your attention has not only been frequently and urgently invited, and

discussed by the Legislature in nearly all their phases but subjects on which the Legislature have so far taken and consummated action, as that a bill, on more than one occasion, embodying their views and making provision so far as was then deemed justifiable, passed one branch of the Legislature and attained to a second reading in the other. It is therefore very gratifying to know, that that great principle of duty, as embodied in the aforesaid article of our Constitution, has long since and still continues to claim both executive and legislative solicitude; and I am further pleased to notice that the subject is awakening increasing interest and solicitude among our citizens in private and social circles; and that in almost every public address of late the subject is alluded to and discussed in earnest and eloquent strains.

THE LEGISLATURE WARNED NOT TO MAKE A DIFFERENT SYSTEM OF EDUCATION FOR LIBERIA AND NATIVES, TENDING TO DEGRADE THE LATTER.

And I am happy to be able to say, that since the introduction of the subject to the Legislature two years ago, I have received written and verbal messages from several native chiefs, who have by some means learned the purport and object of the recommendation, expressive of their cordial approval of the measure, as being in perfect accordance with benevolence and justice, and assuring me that they stood ready to cheerfully comply at any moment with such a reasonable arrangement and requisition. The fact is, I have not had, for the last six or eight years, any serious fears of the existence of insurmountable difficulties in the way of assimilating, in due time, the manners and customs of our aboriginal population to those

of civilized life, and of bringing them, within a reasonable time, into a state of intelligent, loyal subjects of this Republic. That it can be effected only by the employment of the proper effort, attended with a degree of difficulty, none but a fanatic would deny; but I also contend that those difficulties do not form so formidable a barrier to the consummation of this cherished desire of every true Christian patriot, as is generally supposed. The fact is, though very gradually, yet it is most certainly and encouragingly approximating consummation each successive year; of this, no one who has given the proper attention to the matter will for a moment doubt. I am yet to be convinced, however, of the existence of any thing so peculiar in the condition and dispositions of our aborigines and in their relations to us, as to justify the adoption by this Government of a system of education and training for them, differing from that necessary to be employed with the Americo-Liberians and their descendants, for the accomplishment of the same results. If it be necessary to make provision by law for the training up of our aboriginal population thoroughly in the industrial arts, as a means of at once contributing to their own welfare as well as to the wealth of the nation, it is equally if not more necessary that the same law apply to the Americo-Liberians and their descendants. For I hold that the Americo-Liberians ought to be their exemplars, especially of industry, in the pursuits of civilized life; and I shall ever regard with suspicion any system of education and training for the aborigines, provided by law, that does not equally apply to ourselves, lest it should prove an introduction—though not intended—to a state of things that will cause them to be

regarded as intended to permanently sustain the relation to us of hewers of wood and drawers of water, while our own sons and daughters may be encouraged to live in idleness, luxury and affluence. In a word, it would be encouraging a dangerous line of demarcation, that should have no existence in Liberia.

I must confess, as an individual, that my fears and anxieties for the last six or eight years, have been that the moral, intellectual, and industrial training of a majority of the emigrants who may arrive here in future from the United States, as well as that of our posterity bred and born in this country, will not keep pace with the advancement of our aborigines in those elements of individual and national greatness. In order to show that those fears and anxieties are not unfounded, I have only to state what is pretty generally known in Liberia, that there are thousands of natives living within the jurisdiction of this Republic, who are intellectually in advance of at least one-half of the emigrants that arrive here annually from the United States. And we have only to ask, secondly, What is understood by contributing to the wealth of the nation or resources of government? By what means is this great end to be effected? In what does it consist? Surely no one will deny that it consists in, and is effected by, productive industry; and that the exports of a nation are presumed to be mainly the result of productive industry. This raises the question, What proportion of the exports from Liberia annually is the result of the productive labor of Americo-Liberians? and what proportion that of the aborigines? I submit these questions to you, gentlemen of the Legislature; and when you shall have decided them in your

own minds, from facts as they are, you will be simultaneously prepared to answer as to which of the two classes or divisions of our population contributes most, *pro rata*, to the wealth of the nation and the resources of the Government.

It affords no argument in our favor to say that we export more, or that more passes through our hands to foreigners, in proportion to our numbers, than is the case with the aborigines, unless, before exportation, we had by our industry, by what political economists style *productive consumption*, attached an increased value to the article originally procured of the aborigines, that is, unless we had, before exportation, converted, by our own industry and skill, the palm oil into candles, soap, &c.; the ivory into the numberless uses to which it is usually applied; camwood applied in the way of dyes to our manufactures, &c., &c., thus increasing the original value.

Nor is it any argument in our favor, so long as the original article given in exchange is exclusively of heathen labor, to say that, being civilized, our wants are much greater, in proportion to our numbers, than those of the aborigines, which causes a corresponding increase of importations in our favor, and, consequently, of the revenue. This argument would simply amount to a confession, that we are the greatest consumers and non-producers; or, in the language of political economists, all our importations for the supply of our real and imaginary wants would, under such circumstances, be properly classified under the term of "*unproductive consumption*," which, according to a maxim in political economy, detracts from individual and national wealth, and the resources of the Government.

My main object, gentlemen, for introducing this subject, and for a

cursorry notice of a few of the facts and principles involved therein, is simply to guard in future against an improper and exclusive legislative action respecting our aborigines. That some action, so far as is feasible and practicable, should be had as speedily as possible by the Legislature, having for its object the general improvement of our aboriginal population, rendering them increasingly useful and profitable members of this Republic, no one of sound mind will deny. But there is equal, if not greater occasion, that Government action on such matters should begin nearer at home, right among ourselves. While the missionaries are, as a general thing, laboring among the aborigines, which is very proper, this Government should enact and enforce laws at home discountenancing idleness and highly encouraging industry; laws that will effectually provide for the training up of at least three-fourths of our youth with a practical knowledge of some mechanic art, or of some branch of industry that will be of utility. Our sons and daughters should be, as a general thing, trained up in and with such industrial habits, as a prominent part of their education, as will at once contribute to their physical development, their mental vigor, to the wealth of themselves and of the nation, and to the resources of the Government. This principle, this state of things, should be first generally cultivated among ourselves; and when it has firmly taken root, having become a fixed and admired principle among us, under sanction of law, then let it spread as rapidly and effectually among our aboriginal population as possible; let it practically, as well as by law, apply to them as far as the circle of our influence and power extends among them. We shall then be consistent exemplars to and

teachers of them; and Government will thereby be most blessedly co-operating with and effectually sustaining the missionaries of the Cross in their labors among them

As a young nation we need less tinsel and show, and more reality and stability, ere we can attain to real permanency and greatness. We must learn to abate our admiration of and honor for the exclusively external appearance, or any other futile condition or consideration; and we must learn to place a greater estimate on, and to attach more honor to, real merit, such as are the laudable products of the brain, the heart, and the hands.

I close this subject, gentlemen, by expressing the hope, that the time is not far distant, when our citizens generally, and especial! all our wisest and most influential ones, will, as has been the case to a considerable extent, patriotically second and encourage every legislative and executive effort that may be employed, having for its object the dissemination and establishment of the aforesaid laudable principles throughout the length and breadth of this Republic.

REVENUE

The necessity of providing an adequate revenue for the purpose of meeting the current and contingent expenses, and for the liquidation of the claims against Government each year, is a subject that has been repeatedly urged upon you in my annual communications, as being indispensable to a healthy vigorous and reputable administration of the government; and I regret to say that this and other important subjects have been deferred by the Legislature to within a few days of the close of their session, when the great pressure of business has invariably deferred them to each successive

session, leaving the Administration each year greatly crippled and embarrassed in its operations. I have been particular to cause the Secretary of the Treasury, at each session, not only to timely lay before you the aggregate amount of receipts and disbursements of each preceding year, but a detailed statement of the exports and imports, as well as other statistics, which, from their very nature constitute the most reliable data for the guidance of the Committee of Ways and Means in making the aforesaid provision with an accuracy almost amounting to certainty. In addition to the current expenses, and the liquidation of claims, it is indispensably requisite that means be provided for carrying on certain public works; the repairs of public buildings; the erection of new public buildings in each of our counties; and the more securely fortifying of some of our towns and settlements.

CAUSES OF INCREASED EXPENSES.

It is also my duty to invite your attention to the fact, that unless some change takes place very soon in the policy of such governments as continue to give every indication of their purpose to prosecute at all hazards the so-called emigration system on our coast, we shall have for some time to come, not a new source of expenses exactly—for we have been battling with the slave trade for its extinction in all its phases, at the expense of our lives and treasures, from the earliest period of our history here to the present—but an old source of expenses greatly increased, growing out of the duty and necessity of this Government to keep a sufficient local police employed and stationed at each of the principal points along our coast, to co-operate with our *Coasta-guarda*: and to employ a

military force, when necessary, in order to prevent the more powerful native chiefs from stealing and selling the subjects of the less powerful ones to the so-called emigrant ships, and for the severe punishment of kidnapping chiefs, should they prove persistent after the proper pacific measures shall have been sufficiently employed. I see no other feasible plan, under the circumstances, for suppressing the illicit prosecution of the system, with its concomitant abominations, on our coast and within our jurisdiction.

THE TARIFF REVIEWED.

In order, therefore, to meet the expenses to which I have made allusion, our tariff should be reviewed, and such alterations made in it, and resort should be had to such other means and sources for the increase of our revenue, as a sound policy shall dictate. I earnestly solicit, gentlemen, that you give this subject your earliest attention. Whatever reasonable retrenchments of any of the existing expenses of government you may feel justified in making, will, if in my opinion just and proper, receive my cordial acquiescence.

I may also add that the great number of orders drawn on the treasury, which of necessity have been over two years, more or less, in circulation, and which, though a great relief to the people under the then existing circumstances, have nevertheless greatly depressed us in our financial operations, have all been taken in and redeemed within the last three months, so far as this county is concerned,—excepting, perhaps, forty or fifty dollars. The circumstances which impelled the drawing of these orders no longer existing so strongly, I have fully concluded to act upon the principle in this county, and I instructed the

Superintendents of the respective counties and settlements early this year to act similarly, of drawing no orders upon the treasuries, unless the means to honor them are in hand, so as to prevent their circulation as a kind of circulating medium; and that nothing be received at the Treasury Departments except such as Government can pay out and circulate as lawful available funds. This purpose, which is the only proper course, makes it increasingly necessary that you should provide sufficient means in the treasury and in the sub-treasuries of the respective counties, so that the claims of our citizens, and of others, may be promptly met as they arise.

I hope to be able to transmit to you, in a very few days, the Report of the Auditors whom I appointed this year, by your authorization, for the purpose of auditing the public accounts. I have the promise that it shall be submitted to me this week.

UNITED STATES FRIGATE NIAGARA AND ECHO SLAVES.

I have also to state, that the United States splendid steam frigate Niagara arrived in this port on the 8th ult., with about two hundred recaptives sent out by the United States Government, under a contract with the American Colonization Society. I will, in a special message during your present session, communicate with you fully on this subject.

FRENCH EMIGRATION SCHEME DENOUNCED.

In my last annual message, I cursorily, yet sufficiently fully, under the circumstances, brought into review the emigration system as it had been prosecuted on our coast for the supply of foreign colonies with laborers. And I did not hesitate to

express an unfavorable opinion of it, as being a system fraught with evil. And I invited your special attention to the propriety of so providing by law as would either put an end to it within our jurisdiction, or as would throw around it so many guards and checks as would prevent its illicit prosecution.

I also gave you all the necessary information respecting the arrival, entry, and proceedings of the *Regina Cæli*, Captain Simon, up to that date. The catastrophe of that unfortunate vessel's operations on our coast; the facts and principles involved in her case from first to last; the unprincipled misrepresentations and downright untruths that have been ingeniously invented and put in circulation since she was forcibly and unlawfully taken out of this harbor and carried away by a French naval vessel; as also the great propriety of a proper vindication of the policy and reputation of this Government in the premises, seem to imperatively demand that a full, lucid and reliable history of the French emigration enterprize, as prosecuted on our coast during and from the year 1855 up to the present, based principally upon authentic documents, shall be submitted to you. And I shall, either by or without your special request, submit the same, with a special message, at a very early day of your session; a number of copies of which you will no doubt direct to be printed.

This is the more necessary, since the enemies of our race have, as usual, by their ingenious misrepresentations and eager indorsement of libelous statements made and circulated against us, respecting the policy of this Government in regard to the French emigration system, and particularly with reference to the operations of the *Regina Cæli* within our jurisdiction, sought to

inflict what they vainly thought and hoped would prove the finishing stroke, not only to the good reputation of the country and our race in general, but also to Liberia's very existence. In fact, they had pretty well succeeded in making false and unfavorable impressions concerning us, on the minds of some of the true and honest friends of our country and our race dwelling in foreign lands, who, in the honesty of their hearts, seek and desire to be correctly informed on the subject. We owe it as a duty to such gentlemen, wherever they are to be found in the Christian world, and it is a pleasure to us—others we care nothing for, they sink into contemptible insignificance in ours as well as in the estimation of the respectable portion of the Christian world—to spare no pains in affording all necessary information on the subject, believing as we do, that if the base charges and false imputations that have been so ingeniously and malignantly made against us were substantiated, the mortification and grief of our friends abroad would be no less than ours.

Liberia never professed to be immaculate; to make such a profession would be to profess to be superhuman; and yet we are willing that our policy and reputation should be as closely scrutinized as possible.

After the full and lucid explanations and facts-contained in the contemplated history, are submitted to an enlightened Christian world, Liberia will be content to abide their verdict.

CHEVALIER CAUGHT IN THE ACT OF BUYING SLAVES, AND RUNS AWAY.

During the last month, the notorious Chevalier arrived on our coast again in the *Phoenix*; and notwithstanding the very unpleasant and unsettled state of the difficulties growing out of the case of the *Re-*

gina Cœli, he had the audacity to commence prosecuting what the laws of Liberia declare to be the slave trade, within our jurisdiction, and at the very places at which Captain Simon obtained his so-called emigrants, and the very point off which the mutiny occurred. The Superintendent at Cape Mount conveyed to me the information of his being on our coast, the second day after his arrival; and through the kindness of Commander J. Hunt, of Her Majesty's Sloop *Alectro*, who was most opportunely in this port, Col. F. Paine was conveyed up in search of the aggressor, and found him anchored off Manna; and though he had been there only a few days, he had already bought nine slaves, and had them secured below. By Chevalier's own confession, verbally as well as in writing, he had bought and paid for them as slaves. A consciousness of having committed a gross crime within our jurisdiction, so palpably demonstrated in the presence of British as well as Liberian officers, and all the circumstances entirely precluding the possibility—as had been in the case of the *Regina Cœli*—of inventing ingenious falsehoods of the complicity of the Liberian authorities, to shield his atrocities, and knowing that his engagement in the slave trade—which is declared by our laws, as well as those of several Christian nations, as being piracy—could not be otherwise than condemned and punished by his own Government, he became so affrighted (for he trembled from head to foot) that a confession flowed spontaneously from his lips and pen, ere he recovered himself.

In case our only *Coasta guarda* had not been absent in England for repairs, the *Phœnix* would have been taken as a prize and brought to this port for trial, notwithstanding

she would have likely been violently and unlawfully carried off, as was the case with the *Regina Cœli*. I will, in a special message, communicate with you more fully and definitely on this aggravated subject. I will simply add, however, that Chevalier, in his fright, weighed anchor and left that vicinity for parts as yet unknown.

I directed the Superintendent at Robertsport, immediately on Col. Payne's return and report to me, to establish a local police of Americo-Liberians at each of the principal points between Grand Cape Mount and Gallinas, inclusive, to prevent any shipment of slaves, or communication with the vessel, provided she should continue in that vicinity; and also in the name of this Government to threaten the native chiefs with severe punishment this season for their co-operation in the illicit business, by a military force, if it should be found necessary.

LIBERIA APPEALS TO THE WORLD.

It is very much to be regretted, and it is an abominable shame, that this young and weak nation, which has every reason to husband its little means, and to employ them rather in the great and noble work of the moral and intellectual improvement of our aborigines, with a view of, as speedily as possible, raising them to a perfect level with us, civilly and religiously, should be necessitated, year after year, to incur enormous expenses for the prevention of heinous crimes attempted to be forced upon and among the very people we are thus trying to elevate, by the subjects of a professedly Christian nation, simply because we are a young and weak nation; and yet with this very nation we are in treaty relations, the stipulations of which declare against and utterly condemn such abominable conduct.

I have only to add on this subject, gentlemen, that when the history of this French Emigration System, as prosecuted within our jurisdiction, shall have been laid before you, giving minute description of the almost innumerable impositions that have been practised upon us, the intolerable arrogance of naval officers, the many unprincipled misrepresentations that have been made of us by French emigration agents, you will agree with me that forbearance and partial silence, through national courtesy, are no longer virtues; that the time has fully come for us to speak out and to act out, with a fixed determination of putting a stop to the abominable system within our jurisdiction, at all hazards, though the actual or attempted accomplishment of this duty should cost us our lives, or result in our extermination.

We had, by far, better reconcile ourselves—and I both hope and feel assured that every Americo-Liberian, together with thousands of our aborigines, has fully resolved—to prefer extermination, to have the name of our dear Liberia blotted out from the catalogue of nations by the might of any nation more powerful than we are, and for our remembrance to cease forever on earth, than to submit longer to such arrogant impositions, or to tolerate the prosecution, within our jurisdiction, of an abominable system of human oppression, fraught as it is with principles so despicably intolerable to us as to have caused us to leave the land of our nativity, and with many privations, to seek an asylum upon these heathen shores.

THE EMPEROR DECEIVED, AND WILL
CORRECT THE ERROR WHEN IN-
FORMED.

I presume, gentlemen, that I will be considered almost unreasonably

incredulous, when I assert that I cannot believe that His Imperial Majesty's Government will openly avow its approval of such conduct by its subjects, nor will it tacitly approve of it, by refusing to speak and act out in condemnation and punishment of its palpably aggressive subjects. It must be that the ingenious misrepresentations that have been made to His Imperial Majesty's Government, from time to time, and especially within this year, is the main, if not sole cause, of the delay of that redress being made to us, with those assurances which justice so reasonably demands. I am pleased to learn that the French commodore anticipates a visit to this city, and may be expected daily for adjustment of the difficulties of the *Regina Cœli*, &c. &c.; when I feel sure, that the superabundant evidence incontrovertible in its nature, that will be afforded him of the truth of more than we have said and complained of, will satisfy His Imperial Majesty's Government of the misrepresentations that have been made to it by its subjects, and will induce that Government, whose magnanimity we would not, as yet, for a moment question, to take the proper view of and action on the matter. It is to the interest, and therefore is the policy of this Government, to cultivate the best feeling with all the civilized nations of the earth. We feel under many obligations to his Imperial Majesty's Government, for our early recognition, and for subsequent acts of kindness; and it is our fervent desire to cultivate the best feeling with that great nation, so far as is practicable without compromising our fixed principles.

POSTAL CONVENTION WITH ENGLAND
CONCLUDED.

I am happy to be able to inform you that the Postal Convention, of

which I gave information last year, as being in course of negotiation between H. B. M. Government and this Republic, has been so far consummated as to only require now a formal ratification by the Senate, &c. It is a very liberal postal arrangement with us, and should be regarded as another evidence of the kind and generous feeling of H. B. M. Government towards us. G. Ralston, Esq., our Consul General at London, who was duly empowered to act in the premises on behalf of this Government, transmitted a copy of the treaty early this year; and as it stipulated to go into operation on the first of April last, and it was deemed imprudent to incur the expense of convening the Senate for the special purpose of its ratification, and as nothing was to be lost, but much gained, I allowed it to go into operation, with the assurance to Her Majesty's Government, that its stipulations would be strictly binding on this Government until its formal ratification by the Senate, at this session.

TREATY WITH BELGIUM.

I have also to state, that the treaty, of which I gave intimation at your last session, that was being negotiated between this and His Belgian Majesty's Government, was respectively signed in this city, last March, by Louis Bols, Esq., on the part of the Belgian Government, and the Secretary of State on the part of this Government; both this and the Postal Convention will, at a very early day, be submitted to the Senate for ratification.

LIBERIA COMMERCIAL POLICY.

The gradual yet certain increase in the acquisition by our citizens of vessels of sufficient capacity, and their actual commencement to ply commercially between this and fo-

reign civilized countries, will bring us to realize at an earlier day than was generally supposed, some of the great advantages that should and will accrue to us from our treaties of reciprocity. It is my opinion, that six years will not have elapsed before many colored gentlemen of capital and business tact, now residing in foreign lands, will not only turn their attention towards Liberia, but will become actually identified with her interest; and will be aroused to such action as will secure to them, by a commerce carried on in their own vessels plying between this Republic and foreign lands, a good share of the profits of the coast trade. And why should they not, as Liberians, or as the founders of new settlements on this continent, be numbered among the chief beneficiaries of the coast trade? And I further venture to express it as my firm belief, that if no untoward circumstance shall arise, it will be as common a thing before the expiration of the next ten years, to ship cotton, coffee, sugar, syrup, and other commodities of this country, in Liberian bottoms, to foreign countries, as it is now for palm oil and camwood to be shipped in foreign bottoms. I am therefore decidedly of opinion, that this Government, in its commercial relations, should entertain and exercise as enlarged and liberal views as circumstances will possibly justify.

THE LARK AND QUAIL, GIFTS OF ENGLAND.

Pursuant to a resolution of the Legislature at the last session, which was based upon information afforded in my last message, I succeeded after some difficulty, in despatching the schooner Lark from this port on the 5th of June, to England, for repairs, under the promise so generously made by Her Majesty's Gov-

ernment. She arrived at Plymouth on the 20th of July, and was condemned and pronounced unworthy of repairs, late in August. I am happy in being able to inform you, that by advices received by the last mail from our Consul General at London, I am informed that Her Majesty's Government has been graciously pleased to present us a substitute, (the Quail,) of little larger capacity than the Lark; and it is intimated that her armament, as well as her general arrangement, will be superior in their adaptation for a *Costa-guarda* to those possessed by the Lark. I anticipate her arrival before your adjournment, when I will be pleased to communicate with you further on the subject.

There are several matters affecting our interests, both in Europe and in the United States, of which I could afford you some cheering intelligence; but prudence dictates that I forbear until they progress further. I may, however, have occasion to communicate with you on some of those subjects ere the close of your session.

I have the painful duty to perform

of making allusion to the great loss our country has sustained this year in the decease of some of its prominent and useful citizens: among whom was Colonel J. B. McGill, for many years an able and faithful Senator, and who, as a Christian statesman, possessed the confidence and respect of all who knew him; also, Colonel Dickerson, of Sinou County, a man of sound judgment and of sterling character: these, with others, whom, according to human views, we could illy spare, have been taken from us by the ruthless hand of death. These dispensations should properly impress and influence us during future life.

I close this communication, gentlemen, after assuring you that you shall have my cordial co-operation, so far as may be required, in the discharge of the duties of your session; which I hope will be performed to the satisfaction of your constituents, as well as in accordance with your own fervent desire.

STEPHEN ALLEN BENSON.

Government House,

Monrovia, Dec. 9, 1858.

Missionaries for Liberia—Letter from Rev. J. N. Danforth.

WILMINGTON, DEL.,

April 14, 1859.

The Presbytery of New Castle is now in session at this place, in the First Presbyterian Church, and among its acts which deserve permanent record, is that of the ordination of three colored men to the missionary work in Africa. Their names are, William T. Amos, James Amos, and Armistead Miller. One of them has been in the Alexander High School in Liberia, and returned to this country to complete his theological education. I was pleased with their appearance and attain-

ments. They have been thoroughly examined according to the rules of the Presbytery, and duly approved. At 12 o'clock to-day, the ordination service commenced. Dr. Hamilton presided and put the constitutional questions. Dr. Dickey, of Oxford, offered the ordaining prayer, and Rev. J. P. Carter, President of the Ashmun Institute, delivered the charge to the newly ordained missionaries. The congregation was large, the scene deeply solemn, the interest universal, the demeanor of the candidates meek and becoming. They are burning with a desire to

carry the good tidings of great joy to the people in Africa, who are sitting in darkness, and in the region and shadow of death. They expect to sail in the Mary Caroline Stevens next month, and will occupy such fields as may be opened before them. They will be under the direction of the Presbyterian Board of Missions. Thus the system and the success of Colonization have drawn attention to the spiritual wants of that distant land, and rich blessings will follow in the train of the advancing operations of our Society. After the services in the morning, I addressed the Presbytery and congregation on behalf of the Society, when the Presbytery unanimously passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Presbytery has heard with interest and pleasure the remarks of the Rev. J. N. Danforth on the subject of Colonization, and that this cause be recommended to the attention of the churches.

The Ashmun Institute, located at Oxford, Pa., has been chartered by the State Legislature, and is in full operation under the supervision of Rev. J. P. Carter, who is training the African mind for usefulness in Africa. They have suitable buildings of brick, which, with thirty acres of land, have been purchased for \$10,000. The establishment does not trouble itself with the vexed questions of the day, but is seeking to elevate the African mind, morally and intellectually, and to bring its improved and beneficent influences to act on the great mass of humanity, native and colonized, which shall have its home on the shores of Africa. In the quiet seclusion of the country, benevolent minds may entertain strong and stirring conceptions for the benefit of long-benighted Africa. Let all the friends of the cause pray for its success.

Very truly yours,
J. N. DANFORTH.

[From a late London Paper.]

The "Edinburgh Review" and Liberia.

In our January number we published a letter from the Rev. H. R. Scott, refuting, on his own experience and authority, the statements which had appeared in the October number of the *Edinburgh Review*, attacking Ex-President Roberts, of Liberia, and the Republic itself, as guilty, the one of slave-trading, the other of favoring it. The Ex-President has just addressed a letter to the editor of the *Edinburgh Review*, refuting the calumny; and as we have had some share in vindicating him from the allegations in question, we have been requested to give publicity to his formal denial, which we do with much pleasure.

"MONROVIA, LIBERIA,
"January 5, 1859.

"To the Editor of the *Edinburgh Review*:"

"SIR:—Through the kindness of a friend, [G. Ralston, Esq.,] in England, my attention has been called to an article entitled 'The Slave Trade in 1858,' published in your valuable journal, No. 220 (October last,) in which, through misinformation, doubtless, you say many hard things respecting colonization and Liberia. and with them you have coupled my name in a manner no less unjust than unfavorable to my reputation.

"It is not my present purpose, Sir, to controvert your opinions respecting the motives you attribute to the supporters of the American

Colonization Society, or to endeavor to change the unfavorable impression you seem to entertain in reference to Liberia. Though greatly mistaken in the views you take, both of colonization and Liberia, I doubt not you are sincere in your convictions.

"No subject or enterprise, in consequence of man's imperfect judgment, can hope to receive universal favor; yet the opinions of men, though as opposite as the antipodes, may be equally honest and conscientious. I have, therefore, no good reason to suppose that to sustain your views of colonization and of Liberia, you would intentionally sacrifice unjustly the character of any man; and under this conviction I appeal to you, sir, to do me the justice of making public, through the medium of your widely-circulated journal, my unreserved and absolute denial of the allegations of complicity in the slave trade with which I am there charged. Though an humble individual, and connected with a despised and down-trodden race, believe me, sir, my good reputation is as dear to me as that of any man of any other race.

"In your remarks on Liberia, in the article referred to, viz: 'The Slave Trade in 1858,' you revive, in reference to me, a most cruel and malicious slander, originated and published by Dr. Bacon in the *New York Day Book*, July, 1848. You say there that 'He,' Dr. Bacon, in 1837, 'found Roberts, now known as the late President of the Republic of Liberia, acting as the agent and factor of the great slave trader Pedro Blanco.' 'Roberts was employed in purchasing condemned vessels at Sierra Leone, for Blanco's use as slavers.' 'We have not space for the details of the scheme by which condemned vessels at Sierra Leone, —which could not be purchased by the English agent of Pedro Blanco,

nor by Spaniards, in person,—were bought by Roberts, removed under the American or the Liberian flag, and subsequently transferred through a third person to Blanco, at his great establishment at Gallinas.' 'Dr. Bacon kept his eye on one vessel, the slave schooner which Roberts christened the *Monrovia*, and which, after lying idle till attention was supposed to be diverted from it, was laden with slaves from Gillinas for Havana, where she arrived under another name.'

"Now, sir, this is all very specious indeed, but, believe me, the whole story of slave trade complicity on my part with Pedro Blanco, or any other slave trader, is wholly false. I never in my life saw or had the slightest correspondence with Pedro Blanco, or any one else in his name or behalf. I never visited Pedro Blanco's slave establishment, or any other, except for the purpose of demolishing it. I never, in any respect whatever, acted as agent or factor for Pedro Blanco, or any other slave trader. I was never employed in purchasing condemned vessels at Sierra Leone or elsewhere, for the use of Blanco or any other slave trader. I did purchase at Sierra Leone—I think, in 1837, and the only purchase of a vessel I was ever concerned in at that place—a schooner for the trading firm of which I was a partner, to supply the place of one we had, a few weeks before, lost by shipwreck, and which newly-purchased schooner we 'christened the *Monrovia*,' and had her employed for some time in the coasting trade, when it was concluded to sell her, and procure another better suited to our purpose. She was accordingly sold to a gentleman, as far as we knew, wholly unconnected with the slave trade. Subsequently, however, this said vessel, without any agency whatever on my part,

fell into the hands I believe, of Pedro Blanco. Whether or no she conveyed slaves to the Havana, I positively have no knowledge.

"Thus, sir, in plain, undisguised language, and in as few words as possible, I have stated what I beg to offer in vindication of my reputation from cruel calumnies which have been circulated concerning me. If you will be good enough to give this statement a place in your extensively read journal, you will confer a favor on one who knows of no period in his life when for a single moment his decided abhorrence of the slave trade has suffered the slightest abatement, and that one is,

"Your obedient, humble servant,
"J. J. ROBERTS.

"We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that we have known J. J. Roberts. whose name appears to the above, from the date opposite our respective names, and from that time to the present we have no knowledge of any complicity on his part in the slave trade. And we do further certify that, to the best of our belief, the accompanying statement, above his name, is entitled to full and implicit credit.

March, 1829. STEPHEN A. BENSON,
Pres. of Rep. of Liberia.

Jan'y, 1827. BEVERLY P. YATES,
V. P. of Rep. of Liberia.

March, 1829. J. H. CHAVERS,
Sec'y of the Treasury.

Oct'ber, 1834. FRANCIS BURNS,
Bp. of M. E. Ch., Liberia.

Oct'ber, 1828. JOHN DAY,
Chief Justice of Liberia.

Oct'ber, 1834. JOHN SEYS,
U. S. Agent for Lib. Africans.

Feb'y, 1829. JOHN H. CHEESEMAN,
Judge of Court of P. & G. Sess.

Jan'y, 1833. J. S. SMITH, M. D.,
Senator of Rep. of Liberia.

March, 1829. D. B. WARNER,
Ex Sec. of State of R. of Lib.

Jan'y, 1833. HENRY W. DENNIS,
M. of H. of Rep. R. of Lib.

March, 1829. SAM'L F. W. GILL, M. D.
Ex-Governor, Cape Palmas.

Jan'y, 1831. A. W. GARDNER,
Speaker H. of Rep. of R. of Lib.

March, 1826. JOHN H. PAXTON,
M. of H. of Rep. of R. of Lib.

Jan'y, 1836. GEORGE MOORE,
Treasurer of the R. of Lib.

Sept., 1832. THOMAS MOORE,
M. of H. of Rep. of R. of Lib.

Sept., 1824. B. R. WILSON,
Minister of Meth. E. Ch.

Feb'y 1829. JOHN T. RICHARDSON,
Chaplain of Senate of R. of Lib.

Extract from an Address on Colonization.

THE Address, from which we give the extract below, was delivered by a liberal and intelligent friend to the Society at Omaha, (Nebraska,) in February last. As minds are unchanged by place, so the sentiments of genuine humanity and Christian benevolence encompass our whole race. It is delightful to think that

Liberia is sustained by the contributions and prayers of Christians, from the mountainous districts of India to our remote Territories, and the Islands of the Pacific.

"We now proceed to consider the future prospects of Africa. And I can say for myself, that my hopes are strong, my expectations high, that this land of darkness will be re-

deemed; that the Son of Righteousness will arise with healing in his wings, and visit this benighted corner of the earth. Am I asked for a reason of the hope that is within me? I answer, I have the promise of Almighty God himself. I find it so written in the Book of Life, and I have faith in the record. But God himself sees fit to work by second causes, by human instrumentalities, and we shall therefore endeavor to point out some of the means now in operation by which this glorious work will be accomplished. The first is, the world owes it to itself to regenerate Africa. The commercial world, the literary and scientific world, and particularly the religious world, owe it to themselves to redeem Africa. Not only does the world owe it to herself to redeem, but she owes it to Africa. There lies the bulk of the debt; and the world has the means at her command wherewith to discharge. She cannot discharge herself by a plea of bankruptcy, or insolvency, even if such a plea could be received in Heaven's High Chancery, but it cannot. It will be remembered that Diaz discovered the Cape of Good Hope, and Vasco DeGama circumnavigated the continent of Africa, between the years 1490 and 1497 the very years in which Columbus discovered and carried back to Europe the news of the discovery of America.

This discovery by Columbus electrified Europe and the whole civilized world, and was the means of turning the attention of the public mind from the African discoveries. God's time for her deliverance had not come.

The world seemed not to think of Africa, only to tear her children from her bosom, carry them to the newly discovered world and reduce them to hopeless bondage.

England led the van in this work of darkness: she not only peopled her own islands of the sea with the children of Africa, but she forced them on her American colonies, now the United States, against their will and in defiance of their most solemn remonstrance. But does not the unfolding of Providence even now enable us to say, like Joseph to his brethren, 'Ye verily meant evil, but God designed it for good.' England seems to have begun to repent of the evil done to Africa: she has passed stringent laws against the slave trade, and seems determined to enforce them; she has established a colony at the Cape of Good Hope, and another at Sierra Leone (or Mountain of Lions,) which adjoins the Republic of Liberia, to the north of it. This colony of England's is the main receptacle for the recaptured Africans taken by her cruisers. It is said that there are many thousand recaptured Africans there, speaking some two hundred languages and dialects of the African tribes. They are being educated in the English language and instructed in the principles of the Christian religion and in the arts of civilized life.

We said England seemed to have begun to repent; she has indeed as a nation much to repent of, and to be forgiven for; and it is to be hoped that if much is forgiven she will love much, and that she will show her faith by her works, and like Saul of Tarsus endeavor to build up the interest she aided in destroying.

One strong ground of hope for the redemption of Africa is, that all the balance of the world lies in comparative sunlight, and the power of the human mind must have an object towards which to direct its energies. We have many Fremonts, we have but one range of Rocky Mountains to explore.

I have before said that the world owes a heavy debt to Africa, and that the world had the means wherewith to pay. The United States in particular, have a large item in the inventory of assets wherewith to liquidate that debt. She has four millions of the children of Africa, educated in the principles of the Christian religion and familiar with

the forms of Republican government, ready to be given back, and the debt liquidated with interest, so far as we are concerned. She can give back those four millions of Africa's children, and the gift will enrich the giver. Like Portias, mercy it will be, twice blessed—blessed to those who give, and blessed to those who receive."

The Slave Trade.

THE National Intelligencer of the 12th inst. publishes an article of a Savannah cotemporary, "in which (it remarks) an intelligent account is given of the legal proceedings actually instituted by the Government." On this subject the Intelligencer continues:

"We think it will appear from this brief statement that the Executive branch of the Government has fully discharged the measure of its duties in the premises, and that the imputations which have been cast upon it are without foundation in any candid appreciation of the facts involved in the case, or of the duty which the President was called to perform in enforcing the law. As the Savannah journal intimates, it cannot be expected of the President to become at once prosecutor, judge and jury, with the view of visiting summary vengeance on the offenders at the very moment they were arrested, and the fair-minded of all parties will be disposed to question the justice with which the Administration is thus arraigned for its alleged delinquency, when they are apprized of the fact that its conduct is impugned by a few at the South on the ground that its zeal in the prosecution of the offenders has transcended the strict requirements of the law."

This able and truly national journal, April 25th, states, that "the trials lately held at Charleston, in the case of the crew found on board the Echo at the time of her capture as a slaver by Lieut. Maffit, have resulted in the acquittal of the parties indicted for a violation of the statutes of the United States against the foreign slave trade."

The Intelligencer well observes that,

"If the Echo was rightfully condemned as a slaver, and if her living freight was rightfully returned to Africa as rescued victims of the foreign slave trade, it would seem to be a fair presumption that the agents detected in this criminal transaction must have partaken in the unlawful character already pronounced upon the instruments and the fact of their illicit enterprise, the same law which disposes of these latter ascertains, in terms the most emphatic, the nature of the offence committed by the former.

"Our habitual respect for the verdict pronounced by a jury, under the solemn sanctions which attach to the administration of public justice, causes us to cherish the hope that in the present case there must have been some defect or insuffi-

ciency in the nature or degree of the evidence upon which the prosecution on the part of the United States endeavored to sustain its charge against the parties put on trial. It will be within the recollection of all that similar trials in the city of New York and elsewhere, though instituted by the Government of the United States and prosecuted with vigor, have failed to result in convictions, whether always because of the unproved guilt of the accused or sometimes from other causes, we are unable to say.

"And we are the more prepared to believe that general rather than special causes have conspired to produce the results reached in these recent trials, because we remember the respect paid to the laws of the United States by the citizens of Charleston when the *Echo* was first brought into their port, and when an effort was made by a few zealous advocates of the foreign slave trade to procure the release of the rescued Africans from the custody in which they were held by the Federal authorities. To this loyal spirit President Buchanan alluded in his last annual message, when, referring to the case of the *Echo*, he truly said that 'the conduct of the authorities and citizens of Charleston, in giving countenance to the execution of the law, was just what might have been expected from their high character.' If such was their respect for the law at that period, we are at some loss to conceive it possible that an explanation of the ground on which the jury failed to enforce its sanctions in the present case against the persons alleged to have been engaged in the foreign slave trade, is to be sought in the existence of a public sentiment favorable to that infamous traffic, and subversive of the very foundations of all stable government. Yet such is the ex-

planation which we are asked to receive by several of our South Carolina contemporaries, and the statement, we regret to say, so far from being admitted with sorrow, is rather adduced by some in a tone of exultation, as signally proving the utter impotency of Congress, or even of the combined branches of the Federal Government, to enforce any law against which the local sentiment is arrayed. This explanation involves a two-fold reproach against the people of South Carolina, implying, as it does, in the first place, that the local sentiment of that State is now favorable to the revival of the foreign slave trade, and, in the second place, that loyalty to law on the part of its citizens is made to depend upon the caprices of popular sentiment. For ourselves we are unwilling to accept the truth of either of these allegations, and in the mean time prefer to await some other explanation of the course which the jury thought proper to pursue in the case of the acquitted parties than that which admits their guilt, and ascribes their exemption from conviction to the external pressure of a popular opinion so favorable to the high misdemeanor for which they were indicted, as to be regardless of the obligations imposed by the law of the land."

We trust these Africans, unlawfully introduced into the country, will come under the protection of the Government of the United States, which has full authority to take control of them and restore them to their native country. Certainly the Executive will neglect no proper means of effecting an object so rightful and desirable, and so in accordance with our whole policy for the last fifty years. The Governor and

authorities of Georgia co-operated in a similar case with the General Government, and we are slow to believe that either patriotism or humanity have suffered decay in any portion of this Union.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Hon. John A. Campbell, of the United States Supreme Court, (says the New Orleans Bulletin,) delivered a charge to the Grand Jury at the opening of the Circuit Court for the southern district of Alabama at Mobile, on the 12th instant, which is one of the ablest and most decided that we have ever read. It is devoted exclusively to the slave trade and fillibusterism, and reasserts more pointedly and emphatically than before all the general positions which the same fearless, honest, and independent jurist assumed in reference to these subjects in his charge to the Grand Jury at the same place some months ago. His charge occupies three columns in the Mobile Advertiser, and was delivered, as the papers there inform us, with an earnestness that elicited profound attention. The Judge is thoroughly in earnest, and intends that, so far

as it depends on him, the laws shall be fully executed in letter and spirit. That this course of Judge Campbell will raise him in the estimation of the great mass of respectable and intelligent citizens of the country—South and North, East and West—irrespective of party, cannot be for a moment doubted. He has shown himself the incorruptible and the fearless Judge, who plainly lays down the laws and calls upon his sworn co-associates to perform their whole duty in executing them to their fullest extent. He examines the slave trade and he finds it in fact, as well as in the opinions of the great men of the country, past and present, North and South, as well in the words they have uttered in regard to it as the laws they have helped to frame to crush it, to partake of the nature of piracy, and he so regards it. He quotes the language of many distinguished Southern men, refers to the treaties of all civilized nations for the purpose of suppressing it, and the rigor of the laws of the United States to the same end, and declares that “the public conscience has sanctioned the rigor of the laws.”—*Savannah Republican*.

Resolutions of the New York Colonization Society.

In our last number, page 106, is the Report of the Hon. Elisha Whitteley, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, made to the Directors of the American Colonization Society at their last meeting. Inadvertently, the Resolutions of the New York State Colonization Society, to which that Report especially referred, were omitted. We now give them entire, as is due to

the Board of Managers of the New York Society.

Resolutions of the New York State Colonization Society—adopted by the Board of Managers of said Society at a special meeting, January 2d, 1859.

Resolved, That this Society renewedly express its opposition to the slave trade in Africa, open or disguised.

Resolved, That we earnestly desire a more effective action of the

Government of the United States to suppress the slave trade, by substituting small but well armed war steamers for the large but cumbersome sail vessels now employed.

Resolved, That in view of the relations which the Government and people of Liberia bear to the United States, and the dangers of their condition, and their inability, unaided, to guard their extended line of sea coast, humanity, justice and wise policy demand that our Government render assistance by presenting that young Republic an armed steamer and other materials of defence.

Resolved, That we have learned with much gratification, that the

immediate pressing want of ammunition and arms, found to exist on the arrival of the Steamer Niagara at Monrovia, was supplied by Commander Chauncy, as a loan, until the pleasure of the American Government could be ascertained, and that we earnestly hope this act of Commander Chauncy will be approved by the Government and the loan be made a gift.

Resolved, That the representatives of the New York State Colonization Society in the Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society, be instructed to present a copy of their Resolutions to that Board and secure from it some effective action.

Life-Membership well defined.

WE are greatly indebted to a friend of the cause in Virginia for the following letter, which if it touch some consciences and open many hands, will prove a kindness, "an excellent oil that shall not break the head."

"I notice that some of our Parent Societies publish a monthly register of deceased members during the preceding month; and I have often wondered how the facts were ascertained. Certain it is, that many such are not reported to the officers or agents of said Societies. I would suggest that each Life Member, especially of the American Colonization Society, should write at least once a year to the Secretary and Treasurer, that he may know whose names properly belong to the list of life-members. I think by this plan one desirable object would be effected. Members would thus be brought regularly and statedly to reflect, whether they are *really alive* to the interests of the Society: and it might be the means of renewing the evi-

dence of vitality in a substantial form. It is not reasonable to suppose that your correspondents would, from year to year, take up their pens merely to inform you that they are still alive. They would be more apt to realize the fact that a Society, in order to live and thrive, and accomplish its objects, must be sustained. I understand by life-membership a life-time interest; and if evidence of this is not renewed from time to time, as circumstances permit, it may be questionable whether the member is really a living or a dead member. I, for one, acknowledge the justice of such a charge as first hinted, and if others shall apply the same individually, and rid themselves satisfactory in their own minds, then the object of the above suggestion will be effected and effective for good: at least the enclosed ten dollars is the result of the reflections of a friend to the cause of African Colonization, the receipt of which you will please to acknowledge in due time, and apply the same to the wants of the Society."

A Liberian's thoughts of his country,

AFTER SIXTEEN YEARS' ABSENCE.

WE have before us a letter dated "Victoria, Vancouver's Island, February 28th, 1859," from Fielder Smithea, enclosing one to an esteemed friend in Liberia, to whom he writes:

"Having been absent from Liberia over sixteen years, you will be surprised on receiving a letter from one with whom you used to be so intimate, during my residence of two years and nine months in your young and growing colony. And I am here frank to confess that while in Liberia, the incidents of my life, the beautiful scenery of the country, the many friends and acquaintances with whom I had the good fortune to associate, made such an impression upon my mind, that wherever I have been these im-

pressions, ghostlike, have followed me, and have acted with wonderful effect upon my feelings—so much so that in many ways I have tried to make myself contented and happy; yet I find a longing within, an aching void, that no place short of Liberia (my own adopted and glorious country) will ever fill.

"I again cherish the lively hope (God willing) of coming to Liberia, where I may do at least some good for my race. With this view, I write you this letter, expressing the liveliest wish for the good health of yourself and your family and of inquiring friends."

In his letter to us, he observes:

"I am strongly inclined to the belief that Liberia offers a more favorable field and less obstacles than any other place for us as people."

Intelligence.

DEATH OF MRS. PHELPS.—Mrs. Anson G. Phelps, senior, died at her residence in 30th street, on Sunday evening, in the 76th year of her age. She had been confined to her bed for some weeks from an attack of paralysis, but had it not been for her age, hopes would have been entertained of her recovery. She passed away, as one going to sleep, without a struggle or a groan. In the death of this excellent woman the poor have lost a faithful and unwearied friend. Mrs. Phelps has not remained long after her husband and son.

INTERESTING FROM AFRICA.—A recent arrival from Monrovia brought an interesting letter from the Rev. George L. Seymour, (colored,) formerly of Hartford, Connecticut, but for the last twenty years a citizen of the African Republic of Liberia. He reports the natives as robust in appearance, industrious, intelligent, ingenious, and very peaceable. The soil is stated to be exceedingly productive, water pure and cool, timber and stone suitable for building plentiful, and that iron ore exists in vast quantities. He remarks:

"I hope the American Church will devise some plan for united effort in Africa, and if possible employ colored laborers in the field. The African can be approached by one of similar hue and sentiment better than by one who he knows has a striking resemblance to the African slave; and no one will dispute but the African will hail the return of his brother with gladness, as soon as a little knowledge is imparted."—*N. Y. Observer.*

MANUMISSION OF 18 SLAVES.—A number of slaves made their appearance in Cincinnati the other day. The Gazette says:—There were nine males and nine females, consisting of a father and mother and their children and grand-children, and one mulatto woman with four boys between the ages of seven and thirteen. As they passed up Vine street, headed by Mr. Robert Barnett, an old gentleman nearly seventy years of age, a resident of Lincoln county, Ky., they attracted general attention, and occasioned many remarks.

The party were all taken to the Probate Court, where the usual deeds of emancipa-

tion were executed. While in Covington, before crossing the river, their owner was offered \$20,000 for them, but he quietly remarked, "I would not take fifty thousand." Mr. B. is a gentleman of considerable property, and being a bachelor, thinks he has enough to provide for the remainder of his days, and has with a peculiarly unselfish feeling, quite in contrast with a peculiarly selfish world, refused a sum that would have been quite a fortune, and giving his servants their freedom. Mr. Barnett may be regarded as a practical philanthropist.—*N. Y. Observer.*

RICHARD RANDOLPH, a cousin of John Randolph of Roanoke, died in Miami Township, Ohio, on the 31st of January. The deceased, who was as eccentric as his more celebrated cousin, was an old bachelor, and had resided on the Randolph tract, Ohio, for twenty-five years. He leaves a property, mostly in land, valued at \$80,000, to be expended in the purchase and freedom of the slaves now owned in the Randolph family, and those, with their offspring, formerly owned in the Randolph family, which slaves are to be set free; and if the estate is not exhausted in this purchase, the balance to be applied to the use and benefit of said slaves.—*Boston Journal.*

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—Copies of all the versions of Mrs. Stowe's novel of Uncle Tom's Cabin have been procured or ordered for the British Museum. Among them are thirteen different German versions, two Welsh, two Magyar, two Wallachian, one Wendish, one Polish, one Russian, one Greek, one Armenian, besides Dutch, Swedish, Danish, and all the languages of Southwestern Europe. No novel ever written ever attained anything like so broad a circulation.

FREE COLORED MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF CHARLESTON, S. C.—The females of this society contributed one hundred and sixteen dollars to the parent society, the Charleston, S. C., Conference Missionary, at its late annual meeting.—*Miss. Advocate.*

It is estimated the colored population of New York amounts to 10,000. There are 204 colored waiters and 144 colored porters; 150 colored men are whitewashers, 80 are coachmen, 64 cooks, 48 barbers, 182 laborers, and 124 sailors. There are 183 washerwomen, and 214 widows without occupation. Colored professional and tradesmen are few, viz: 2 farmers, 1

broker, 3 printers, 6 physicians, 7 teachers, 18 priests, and 1 ventriloquist.

[From the Christian Advocate.]

BISHOP BURNS.

Dear Brother:—It will be within the recollection of the Church generally, that Rev. Francis Burns, of the Liberia Annual Conference, was elected missionary bishop for Africa under act of the General Conference of 1856, and that he was ordained at the last session of the Genessee Conference held at Perry, in Wyoming County, N. Y. Some time after the ordination, the Rev. C. D. Burlingame presented to the conference the following paper, a copy of which was directed to be forwarded to Bishop Burns, attested by the signatures of the bishop presiding, Bishop Baker, and of the secretary, Rev. J. M. Fuller. I have to request you to give it a place in the *Advocate and Journal*.

J. P. DURBIN,

Cor. Secretary.

"Rev. FRANCIS BURNS, Missionary Bishop of Liberia, in Africa.

"The Genessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America hereby tender to you our cordial greetings.

"During the few days we were honored by your presence with your ministrations and social intercourse, with your dignified and truly Christian deportment, we have been highly gratified.

"We regard it as an auspicious epoch in the annals of old Genessee, that in our conference you were solemnly consecrated to the holy office of a missionary bishop for the continent of Africa, the first event of the kind in our ecclesiastical history; that from among us you go forth as a Christian bishop to promote the interests of the infant Church, and to publish salvation to the pagan and savage tribes in the land of your ancestors.

"You enter the vast Gospel field that spreads out before you, dear brother, with our most sanguine hopes, that the results of your labors will furnish eminent illustrations of the capability of the African races to enjoy and appreciate the blessings of religion, education and liberty.

"May the benedictions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost attend you in your homeward voyage, and in your great work.

"In behalf of the Conference,

"O. C. BAKER,

"J. M. FULLER."

"Perry, Wyoming Co., N. Y.,

"October 25, 1858."

HOW COFFEE CAME TO BE USED.—At the time Columbus discovered America, coffee had never been known or used. It only grew in Arabia and Upper Ethiopia. The discovery of its use as a drink is ascribed to the superior of a monastery in Arabia, who, desirous of preventing the monks from sleeping at their nocturnal services, made them drink the infusion of coffee, upon the report of some shepherds, who observed that their flocks were more lively after browsing on the fruit of that plant. Its reputation rapidly spread through the adjacent countries, and in about two hundred years it reached Paris. A single plant, brought there in 1614, became the parent stock of all the coffee plantations in the West Indies. The extent of consumption can now hardly be realized. The United States alone annually consume, at the cost of its landing, from fourteen to fifteen millions of dollars. You may know the Arabia or Mocha, the best coffee, by its small bean and dark color. The Java and East India, the next in quality, is a larger bean and of a pale yellow color. The West India Rio has a blue, greenish grey tint.

GREAT SHOOTING.—The Rev. Joseph W. Blakesley, in his recently published account of a visit to Algeria, states that almost everywhere in North Africa there is fair shooting. He says:

"A man told me that in the vicinity of lake Aloula, near the tomb of the Christian Queen, he had himself killed 1700 woodcocks in three weeks. At Guelma, my landlord came in one day, after about three hours walk in the immediate neighborhood, and his bag consisted of a woodcock, two poules de Carthage, a bird about as big as a pheasant, and nine quails."

At Naples, a new seminary for young negroes was established about a year ago, by a zealous monk, Father Ludovico. All the inmates had been bought by the founder in Africa, twelve at the expense of the king of Naples, and a palace had been donated for an educational establishment by a Neapolitan priest. The course of studies embraced the Italian, Latin, French, and Arabic languages, geography, arithmetic, and the doctrines of the Catholic Church. The climate of Naples agreeing well with the negroes, it is intended to open also a seminary for the numerous young negresses whom Abbe Olivieri has been redeeming from slavery. Heretofore they have been dispersed in the convents of Italy, France, and Germany, and a

great many of them have met with a premature death from the roughness of a foreign climate.

MR. CALDWELL, one of the State Senators of Virginia, and twice Mayor of Wheeling, the other day delivered at the Court House in that city a very strong speech in favor of free labor—the first speech of the kind ever delivered in that city. The audience was large, and the sensation considerable.

THE NEGROES' CROP.—The Montgomery (Ala.) Mail says:

"Mr. J. S. Byington informed us yesterday that he made two very remarkable cotton purchases very lately. One was the cotton crop of the negroes of Dr. Laucas, of this vicinity, for which he paid \$1,800 in cash; every dollar of which goes to the negroes."

This looks as if some of the negroes down South are making money faster than some white folks. But the Macon (Ga.) State Press tells a larger story. It says:

"We have been informed by our worthy Mayor, O. G. Sparks, Esq., of the firm of Hardeman & Sparks of this city, that he has sold the crop of cotton belonging to the negroes of Col. John B. Lamar and Hon. Howell Cobb, to Mr. James Rea, for the sum of \$3,969.61. This is all clear money to them, and we are likewise informed that the same negroes sell sugarcane, syrup, chickens, eggs, and ground peas, which amounts to at least one-half as much more. Nothing more need be said."

BLIND UDI'S PRAYER.

Rev. C. C. Hoffman, a most laborious missionary under Bishop Payne in Africa, gives the following:

"Among those who attended the old native chapel at Cape Palmas was Udi, a blind woman; she had come so often and so regularly, that she knew the way without a guide. She seemed to love to hear of God, and as she walked to her house in town, often repeated the name of Jesus, God's Son, who died for me. The war of 1857 came, the towns were burned, the natives scattered.

"For more than a year the missionary heard nothing of Udi. Within the past month Udi was led to his house at the Cape, and he asked her if she had forgotten God's things. 'No, she remembered them and God's Son.' What was his name? 'esus; he died for my sins and the sins of the world.' And do you pray to God, Udi? 'Yes; night and morning I

kneel on my knees and pray.' And what do you ask God? She then repeated the following prayer:

"Our Father who art in heaven, who made all things, who made the earth, turn my heart toward thee. Because I have broken thy holy laws, forgive me for Jesus Christ's sake. All the sins I have committed, help me to leave them. Give me thy Holy Spirit. Forgive us; take bad fashion away from us, give us good fashion, and let our hearts all go to God. I pray for all Church people, for the Bodiâ Tibawa, and head men, for Jesus Christ's sake."—*Missionary Advocate*.

AN ANTIQUITY.—A free colored man, named Cæsar—or, as he was more familiarly called, "Pa Cæsar"—died near Covington, Louisiana, on the 8th of February, at the advanced age of one hundred and thirty-eight years. Cæsar, according to his own

account, was an African by birth, and was brought to Louisiana, then a Spanish province, when he was about fifteen years of age; has resided in the vicinity of Covington for more than fifty years, and till within a few months of his decease had retained possession of his mental and physical faculties, engaging in conversation, in the French language, with any one who chose to visit him. He has frequently spoken of having been present at the laying of the foundation of the old Cathedral in New Orleans, besides other incidents connected with the early history of that city. As a manifestation of respect for the memory of the deceased, his remains were attended to the grave by a number of the citizens of Covington, besides a vast assemblage of the colored population, who have ever regarded old Cæsar with religious veneration, as the patriarch of their race and color.—*N. Y. Observer*.

Arrival from Liberia.

By the "Eusebia N. Roye," of Monrovia, Liberia, (formerly the G. C. Ackerly, of New York,) we have received a letter from the Rev. John Seys, dated the 10th of March; also copies of the Liberia Herald of February 16th and March 3d. The Society's ship, the "Mary Caroline Stevens," left Monrovia February 24th, on her return voyage, with two cabin and thirteen steerage passengers. She must have experienced unusual delay, yet will probably be home before the issue of our present number.

Dr. John Z. Forney, U. S. Commercial Agent for Liberia, died at Monrovia after a sudden illness, and his funeral was attended on the 10th by the President and other officers of State, and by the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Rev. John Seys was instructed by the Commander of the U. S.

Ship Dale to act as Commercial Agent.

A son of the Hon. D. B. Warner (Ex-Secretary of State) was fearfully if not fatally wounded by the accidental discharge of a gun on the 22d of February.

Liberia and the missionary cause have experienced a great loss in the death of the Rev. John Day, who fulfilled with much energy and success the duties of Superintendent of the Baptist Mission, and also of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia. He was originally from North Carolina, lived long in Africa, an eminent patriot and Christian Missionary.

The Herald also announces with profound regret the decease of Edmund Draper, Esq., a promising young lawyer. He died at Cape Palmas.

The Rev. G. L. Seymour's report of his late exploring tour is appearing in successive numbers of the *Herald*.

The National Fair had been held much to the satisfaction of all parties.

The newly-commencing series of the *Herald* appears in a clear type, containing the Acts of the recent long session of the Legislature, and many encouraging articles. It is stated that Messurado County will turn out this year from seventy-five to eighty thousand pounds of sugar, besides molasses, syrup, &c. &c.

Among the acts of the Legislature we find one positively prohibiting the enlistment of emigrants on the Liberian coast, under the penalties attached to the prosecution of the slave trade.

The cornerstone of Trinity Church was laid in the city of Monrovia on the 25th of February.

The *Herald* speaks in high terms of commendation of the M. E. Church in sending to that country the Missionary Bishop, the Rev. Francis Burns.

✂ The "Mary Caroline Stevens" has just arrived at Baltimore.

Our Receipts.

THE friends of this Society and Liberia will be gratified to observe the large amounts recently paid into our treasury. The amount paid by the Government for the care and support of the recaptured Africans is in part already expended, and large additional supplies are to be sent out for their benefit in the expedition for the present month.

The McDonogh Legacy (a part of which we now acknowledge) is a

sacred fund, intended by the will of the donor to be much larger than (after a long conflict of interests, and great expenditures, in determining the interpretation and proper execution of this testament,) has been judicially awarded, but sufficient, nevertheless, to awaken our warmest gratitude, and demand caution and wisdom in its investment or expenditure.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society,

From the 20th of March to the 20th of April, 1859.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Lowell—From L. Keese, \$50—
\$30 of which is to constitute
Henry C. Putney, of Morris-
town, N. J., a life member of
the A. C. S. 50 00

CONNECTICUT.

By Rev. John Orcutt, (\$41,) viz:
Litchfield—A friend, \$20. Middle-

town—E. F. Johnson, \$6, Miss
Elizabeth Hubbard, and Ben-
jamin Douglass, \$2 each; Cash
\$10, and A. D. Eason, \$1.... 41 00

NEW YORK.

Final payment of interest, receiv-
ed from the executors, on the
legacy of Augustus Graham,
held in trust for educational
purposes in Liberia..... 466 42

NEW JERSEY.

Pittsgrove—By Rev. J. N. Danforth, viz: To constitute Rev. George W. Janvier a life member of the A. C. S. 30 00

VIRGINIA.

Lynchburg—From Mrs. Mary B. Blackford, 5 00

OHIO.

Ravenna—From B. P. Conant, on account of legacy of Daniel Everest 20 00

By Rev. B. O. Plimpton, (\$82) viz: *Carrollton*—E. R. Eckles, Levi Brady, James Wier, and Rev. Robert E. Smith, \$5 each; Jas. Patton, Wm. Hardisty, and Dr. Scott, \$2 each; H. C. Baxter, 50 cents. 27 50

Wellsville—Collected from sundry persons. 6 50

Rootstown—L. Chapman, \$10, Gad Case, \$5, Wm. Scott, Otis Reed, A. H. Barlow, and Pomeroy Reed, \$1 each; Horace Reed, 50 cents. 19 50

Edinburg—Jas. Bond, \$1, Sarah Eddy, 50 cents. 1 50

Canton—Peter House, \$10, J. S. Saxton, Isaac Harter, each \$1, Ephraim Ball, \$10, Mrs. S. D. Day, \$5. 27 00

By Rev. J. C. Stockton, (\$39) viz: *Licking County*—W. Condit, \$5, A. Sanford, A. B. Prichard, and G. B. Johnston, each \$3; Hon. T. Bankroft, \$2, Rev. Doolittle and Lindley, each \$1; E. O. Williams, \$2, W. P. Kerr, J. Hall, D. Humphrey, Niram Pruden, George Barkley, S. Carpenter, Mr. Follet, J. K. Edgerly, B. M. Edgerly, E. B. Pierson, Philip Condit, W. C. Braken, Thos. Wyatt, John White, J. M. Martin, Lewis Martin, W. Reeder, and J. Tuttle, \$1 each; Ira Condit, and Peter Copeland, 50 cents each. 39 00

141 00

KENTUCKY.

Paris—From J. R. Thornton, legacy of Lucy D. Thornton. . 50 00

TENNESSEE.

Knoxville—From Rev. Thomas Humes, the first of three instalments to constitute Miss Catharine White a life member of the A. C. S. 10 00

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans—On account of the legacy of John McDonogh, received through Thomas Allen Clark, Esq., . . \$39,615.13
less commission and expenses, . . . 3,269.32
—36,345.81

MISSISSIPPI.

Buena Vista—Charles B. New, his note dated 25th of March, 1858, at 12 months, being balance of \$1,000 to constitute him a Life Director, paid. . . . 500 00

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Received from the United States, to defray the expense of supporting, &c., in Liberia, the 200 recaptives of the Echo, sent there in the U. S. Steamer Niagara 32,500 00

FOR REPOSITORY.

CONNECTICUT.—*North Haven*—Solomon Orcutt, for 1859 1 00

NEW YORK.—*Clinton*—Rev. W. S. Curtis, balance due. 5 00

PENNSYLVANIA.—*Philadelphia*—Elijah Brown, \$1. *Cross Cut P. O.*—Wm. Simpson, for 1 year, \$1. *Tallmansville*—C. P. Tallman, from Jan. 1854, to Jan. 1859, \$5. 7 00

VIRGINIA.—*Brownsville*—James Willson. 1 00

OHIO.—*Cincinnati*—Manning P. Force, \$1. By Rev. J. C. Stockton, (\$3,) viz: *Alexandria*—E. B. Pratt, D. S. Owen, and John Gaffield, from April, '59, to April, '60, \$1 each. 4 00

MISSOURI.—*Fee Fee*—From Rev. D. Shumate, Cor. Sec'y Mo. Col. Society, 4 years' subscription of 5 copies. 20 00

LOUISIANA.—*Jackson*—Rev. A. Newton, for 1833, \$1. *New Orleans*—C. H. Schwinker, and Caser D. Antoine, \$1 each for 1859. 3 00

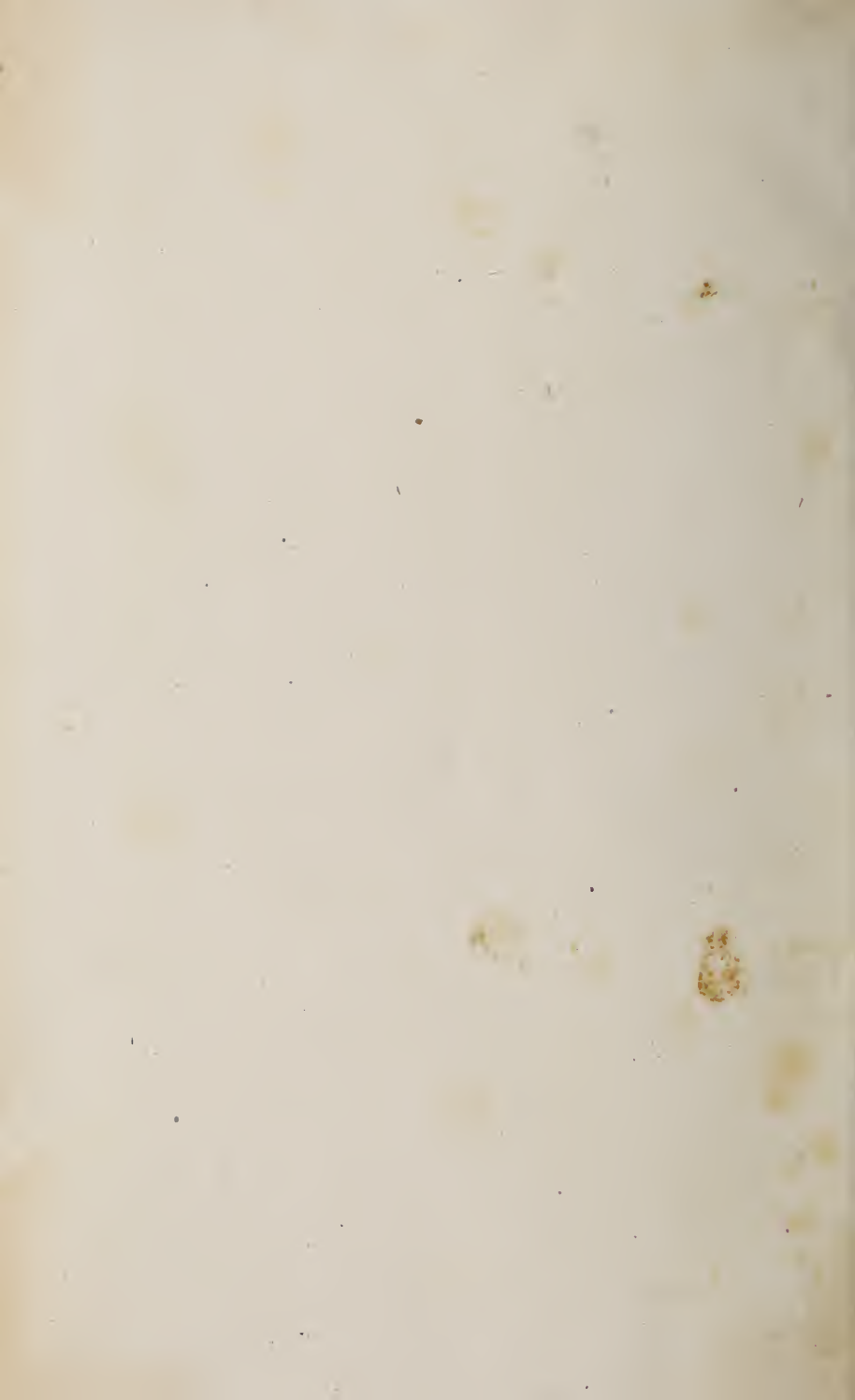
Total Repository. 41 00

Contributions of individuals. . . . 757 00

Legacies. 36,882 23

From United States, for support, &c., of the recaptives of the Echo, in Liberia. 32,500 00

Aggregate Amount. . . . \$70,180 23



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